

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Topic for Discussion at DCI/DDCI Meeting with Judge Clark on
15 December 1982

FROM:

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Chief, Latin America Division

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

14 December 1982

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

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COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

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Attached is an item concerning recent developments in Suriname for discussion at the DCI/DDCI 15 December meeting with the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

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S E C R E T

SUBJECT: Topic for Discussion at DCI Meeting with Judge Clark,
the Assistant to the President for National Security
Affairs, on 15 December 1982

Possible Military Unrest in Aftermath of
Executions in Suriname

1. The political situation in Suriname remains fluid. Shock and outrage grow as news of the brutal executions of leading citizens becomes known. On the afternoon of 13 December, a crowd estimated at over 5,000 persons gathered in a local cemetery to pay their last respects at the burial of several civilian leaders. Spontaneous singing of hymns occurred. The crowd was tense. Military forces reportedly kept a low profile for fear of provoking a reaction by the crowd. Several additional civilian leaders who were executed are to be cremated in a Hindustani ceremony on 14 December. A handbill is circulating in Paramaribo condemning Bouterse and some of his top military leaders for the killings. The handbill calls for guerrilla warfare against the military and demands that the Cubans leave the country. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] there is a backlash within the 25X1
military to the executions. While there are no reports as yet of
hostilities breaking out within the military, [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] there will be trouble. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] several military leaders believe they are 25X1
being targeted.

2. Two of the leading bishops in Paramaribo were arrested for a short period of time and released. [redacted] 25X1
they were interrogated about their discussions with officials of
the Dutch Embassy.

3. Reports of additional arrests are being received. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] approximately 15 or more prisoners are being 25X1
held by the military authorities. [redacted] the 25X1
only reason the military has not executed these prisoners is
because of the overwhelming negative attitude of the populace.

4. Suralco, the Alcoa bauxite company which is the most important company in Paramaribo, remains open but its smelter plant is closed down. On 13 December only 100 workers arrived at a plant employing 3,000. Suralco authorities have told the government that they will return to normal operations when the workers return.

ALL PORTIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT
ARE CLASSIFIED S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

S E C R E T

5. Condemnation in the international press is growing, particularly in Western Europe. There are reports that a government in exile is being formed in the Hague in opposition to Bouterse.

6. Protests took place on 12 and 13 December in front of the Surinamese Embassy in the Hague.

7. During the night of 13 December, sporadic shots were heard, presumably fired by the military.

8. Four funerals of executed moderate opposition leaders were held on 13 December and were very heavily attended. Conservative estimate [] of the number of attendees was 10,000.

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